

Rec'd PCT/PTC 03 DEC 2004

PCT

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only	
PCT/EP 03 / 05761	
International Application No.	
(02 06. 2003)	02 JUN 2003
International Filing Date	
OFFICE EUROPÉEN DES BREVETS DEMANDE INTERNATIONALE PCT	
Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	
Applicant's or agent's file reference (if desired) (12 characters maximum) 342-B0459	

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION NEW AGENTS FOR MAGNETIC IMAGING METHOD	
Box No. II APPLICANT	<input type="checkbox"/> This person is also inventor
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	
Bracco Imaging S.p.A via Egidio Folli, 50 20134 Milano [Italia] ⁶ IT ⁶	
Telephone No. 0221772678	
Facsimile No. 0221772785	
Teleprinter No.	
Applicant's registration No. with the Office	
State (that is, country) of nationality: IT	State (that is, country) of residence: IT
This person is applicant <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	
Aime Silvio [c/o] Bracco Imaging S.p.A via Egidio Folli, 50 20134 Milano [Italia] ⁶ IT ⁶	
This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)	
Applicant's registration No. with the Office	
State (that is, country) of nationality: IT	State (that is, country) of residence: IT
This person is applicant <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.	
Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common representative	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)	
Macchetta Francesco Bracco Imaging S.p.a Intellectual Property Department via Egidio Folli, 50 20134 Milano [Italia] ⁶ IT ⁶	
Telephone No. 0221772678	
Facsimile No. 0221772785	
Teleprinter No.	
Agent's registration No. with the Office	
<input type="checkbox"/> Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.	

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)*If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should not be included in the request.*

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

Mainero Valentina [c/o] ^{ee}Bracco Imaging S.p.A
via Egidio Folli, 50
20134 Milano[Italia] ^{ee}

IT

This person is:

applicant only
 applicant and inventor
 inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

RO1ep

RO1ep

State (that is, country) of nationality:
ITState (that is, country) of residence:
ITThis person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated States all designated States except the United States of America the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

Geninatti Crich Simonetta [c/o] ^{ee}Bracco Imaging S.p.A
via Egidio Folli, 50
20134 Milano[Italia] ^{ee}

IT

This person is:

applicant only
 applicant and inventor
 inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:
ITState (that is, country) of residence:
ITThis person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated States all designated States except the United States of America the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

Cabella Claudia [c/o] ^{ee}Bracco Imaging S.p.A
via Egidio Folli, 50
20134 Milano[Italia] ^{ee}

IT

This person is:

applicant only
 applicant and inventor
 inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:
ITState (that is, country) of residence:
ITThis person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated States all designated States except the United States of America the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

This person is:

applicant only
 applicant and inventor
 inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

Applicant's registration No. with the Office

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated States all designated States except the United States of America the United States of America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.

Box No. V DESIGNATION OF STATES

Mark the applicable check-boxes below; at least one must be marked.

The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a):

Regional Patent

AP ARIPO Patent: GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, MZ Mozambique, SD Sudan, SL Sierra Leone, SZ Swaziland, TZ United Republic of Tanzania, UG Uganda, ZM Zambia, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT (*if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line*)

EA Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT *HU RO*

EP European Patent: AT Austria, BE Belgium, BG Bulgaria, CH & LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein, CY Cyprus, CZ Czech Republic, DE Germany, DK Denmark, EE Estonia, ES Spain, FI Finland, FR France, GB United Kingdom, GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Luxembourg, MC Monaco, NL Netherlands, PT Portugal, SE Sweden, SI Slovenia, SK Slovakia, TR Turkey, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT *HU RO*

OA OAPI Patent: BF Burkina Faso, BJ Benin, CF Central African Republic, CG Congo, CI Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, GA Gabon, GN Guinea, GQ Equatorial Guinea, GW Guinea-Bissau, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, NE Niger, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT (*if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line*)

National Patent (*if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line*):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AE United Arab Emirates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GM Gambia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NZ New Zealand
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AG Antigua and Barbuda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HR Croatia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OM Oman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AL Albania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HU Hungary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PH Philippines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM Armenia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ID Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL Poland
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AT Austria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IL Israel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PT Portugal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AU Australia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN India	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RO Romania
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AZ Azerbaijan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IS Iceland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RU Russian Federation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BA Bosnia and Herzegovina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JP Japan	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BB Barbados	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KE Kenya	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SC Seychelles
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BG Bulgaria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KG Kyrgyzstan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SD Sudan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BR Brazil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SE Sweden
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BY Belarus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KR Republic of Korea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SG Singapore
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BZ Belize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KZ Kazakhstan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SK Slovakia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA Canada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LC Saint Lucia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SL Sierra Leone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CH & LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LK Sri Lanka	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TJ Tajikistan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CN China	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LR Liberia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TM Turkmenistan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO Colombia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LS Lesotho	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TN Tunisia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR Costa Rica	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LT Lithuania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TR Turkey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CU Cuba	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LU Luxembourg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TT Trinidad and Tobago
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CZ Czech Republic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LV Latvia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TZ United Republic of Tanzania
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DE Germany	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA Morocco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UA Ukraine
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DK Denmark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MD Republic of Moldova	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UG Uganda
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DM Dominica	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MG Madagascar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US United States of America
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DZ Algeria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UZ Uzbekistan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EC Ecuador	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MN Mongolia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VC Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EE Estonia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MW Malawi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VN Viet Nam
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ES Spain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MX Mexico	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YU Yugoslavia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FI Finland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MZ Mozambique	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ZA South Africa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GB United Kingdom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Norway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ZM Zambia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GD Grenada		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ZW Zimbabwe
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GE Georgia		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GH Ghana		

Check-boxes below reserved for designating States which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (*Confirmation (including fees) must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.*)

Sheet No. 4

Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM

The priority of the following earlier application(s) is hereby claimed:

Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country or Member of WTO	regional application:*	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 05 June 2002 (05.06.02)	02012531.6		EP	
item (2)				
item (3)				
item (4)				
item (5)				

 Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.

The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (*only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of this international application is the receiving Office*) identified above as:

all items item (1) item (2) item (3) item (4) item (5) other, see
Supplemental Box

* *Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, indicate at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or one Member of the World Trade Organization for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)):*

Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) (*if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used*):

ISA / EP

Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (*if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority*):

Date (day/month/year)	Number	Country (or regional Office)
25.11.02	02012531.6-2112	EPO

Box No. VIII DECLARATIONS

The following declarations are contained in Boxes Nos. VIII (i) to (v) (*mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in the right column the number of each type of declaration*):

Number of declarations

<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (i)	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (ii)	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (iii)	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (iv)	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	:
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII (v)	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	:

Sheet No. 5

Box No. VIII (ii) DECLARATION: ENTITLEMENT TO APPLY FOR AND BE GRANTED A PATENT

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 212; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (ii). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent (Rules 4.17(ii) and 51bis.1(a)(ii)), in a case where the declaration under Rule 4.17(iv) is not appropriate:

in relation this international application:

Bracco Imaging S.p.A is entitled to apply for and be granted a patent by virtue of the following:

an assignment from

Aime, Silvio, via Egidio Folli, 50, 20134, Milano, Italia

and

Mainero Valentina, via Egidio Folli, 50, 20134, Milano, Italia

and

Geninatti Crich Simonetta, via Egidio Folli, 50, 20134, Milano, Italia

and

Cabella Claudia, via Egidio Folli, 50, 20134, Milano, Italia

to the Bracco Imaging S.p.A, dated 28 Feb 2002.

This declaration is made for the purpose of all designations, except the designation of the United States of America.

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (ii)".

Sheet No. 6

Box No. VIII (iii) DECLARATION: ENTITLEMENT TO CLAIM PRIORITY

The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 213; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iii). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application specified below, where the applicant is not the applicant who filed the earlier application or where the applicant's name has changed since the filing of the earlier application (Rules 4.17(iii) and 51bis.1(a)(iii)):

in relation to this international application,

Aime, Silvio and Mainero, Valentina and Geninatti, Crich, Simonetta and Cabella, Claudia, are entitled to claim priority of earlier application

No. 02012531.6

by virtue of the following:

the applicants are the inventors of the subject matter for which protection was sought by way of the earlier application.

This declaration is made for the purpose of the following designations for the national and/or regional patents: US.

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iii)".

Sheet No. 7

Box No. VIII (iv) DECLARATION: INVENTORSHIP (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)

The declaration must conform to the following standardized wording provided for in Section 214; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iv). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

**Declaration of inventorship (Rules 4.17(iv) and 51bis.1(a)(iv))
for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America:**

I hereby declare that I am the original, first and sole (if only one inventor is listed below) or joint (if more than one inventor is listed below) inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.

This declaration is directed to the international application of which it forms a part (if filing declaration with application).

This declaration is directed to international application No. PCT/..... (if furnishing declaration pursuant to Rule 26ter).

I hereby declare that my residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified international application, including the claims of said application. I have identified in the request of said application, in compliance with PCT Rule 4.10, any claim to foreign priority, and I have identified below, under the heading "Prior Applications," by application number, country or Member of the World Trade Organization, day, month and year of filing, any application for a patent or inventor's certificate filed in a country other than the United States of America, including any PCT international application designating at least one country other than the United States of America, having a filing date before that of the application on which foreign priority is claimed.

Prior Applications: No. 02012531.6

I hereby acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is known by me to be material to patentability as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name: Aime Silvio

Residence: Italy

(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: via Egidio Folli, 50
20134- Milano

Citizenship: Italian

Inventor's Signature: *Aime Silvio*

(if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent)

Date: 28/05/03

(of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

Name: Mainero Valentina

Residence: Italy

(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: via Egidio Folli, 50
20134- Milano

Citizenship: Italian

Inventor's Signature: *Valentina Mainero*

(if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent)

Date: 28/05/03

(of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iv)".

Box No. VIII (iv) DECLARATION: INVENTORSHIP (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)

The declaration must conform to the following standardized wording provided for in Section 214; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iv). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

**Declaration of inventorship (Rules 4.17(iv) and 51bis.1(a)(iv))
for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America:**

I hereby declare that I am the original, first and sole (if only one inventor is listed below) or joint (if more than one inventor is listed below) inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.

This declaration is directed to the international application of which it forms a part (if filing declaration with application).

This declaration is directed to international application No. PCT/..... (if furnishing declaration pursuant to Rule 26ter).

I hereby declare that my residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified international application, including the claims of said application. I have identified in the request of said application, in compliance with PCT Rule 4.10, any claim to foreign priority, and I have identified below, under the heading "Prior Applications," by application number, country or Member of the World Trade Organization, day, month and year of filing, any application for a patent or inventor's certificate filed in a country other than the United States of America, including any PCT international application designating at least one country other than the United States of America, having a filing date before that of the application on which foreign priority is claimed.

Prior Applications: No. 02012531.6

I hereby acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is known by me to be material to patentability as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name: Geninatti Crich Simonetta

Residence: Italy

(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: via Egidio Folli, 50

20134- Milano

Citizenship: Italian

Inventor's Signature: *Simonetta Geninatti Crich*

(if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent)

Date: 28.5.03

(of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

Name: Cabella Claudia

Residence: Italy

(city and either US state, if applicable, or country)

Mailing Address: via Egidio Folli, 50

20134- Milano

Citizenship: Italian

Inventor's Signature: *Cabella Claudia*

(if not contained in the request, or if declaration is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application. The signature must be that of the inventor, not that of the agent)

Date: 28/05/03

(of signature which is not contained in the request, or of the declaration that is corrected or added under Rule 26ter after the filing of the international application)

This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iv)".

Sheet No. 9

Box No. IX CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING

This international application contains:

(a) in paper form, the following number of sheets:

request (including declaration sheets) : 9° [40]°

description (excluding sequence listings and/or tables related thereto) : 37

claims : 4

abstract : 1

drawings : 6

Sub-total number of sheets : 57° [58]°

sequence listings :

tables related thereto :

(for both, actual number of sheets if filed in paper form, whether or not also filed in computer readable form; see (c) below)

Total number of sheets : 57° [58]°

(b) only in computer readable form (Section 801(a)(i))(i) sequence listings(ii) tables related thereto(c) also in computer readable form (Section 801(a)(ii))(i) sequence listings(ii) tables related thereto

Type and number of carriers (diskette, CD-ROM, CD-R or other) on which are contained the

 sequence listings: tables related thereto:

(additional copies to be indicated under items 9(ii) and/or 10(ii), in right column)

This international application is accompanied by the following item(s) (mark the applicable check-boxes below and indicate in right column the number of each item):

- fee calculation sheet :
- original separate power of attorney :
- original general power of attorney :
- copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any:
- statement explaining lack of signature :
- priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s):
- translation of international application into (language):
- separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material :
- sequence listings in computer readable form (indicate type and number of carriers)
 - (i) copy submitted for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter only (and not as part of the international application) :
 - (ii) (only where check-box (b)(i) or (c)(i) is marked in left column) additional copies including, where applicable, the copy for the purposes of international search under Rule 13ter :
 - (iii) together with relevant statement as to the identity of the copy or copies with the sequence listings mentioned in left column :
- tables in computer readable form related to sequence listings (indicate type and number of carriers)
 - (i) copy submitted for the purposes of international search under Section 802(b-quater) only (and not as part of the international application) :
 - (ii) (only where check-box (b)(ii) or (c)(ii) is marked in left column) additional copies including, where applicable, the copy for the purposes of international search under Section 802(b-quater) :
 - (iii) together with relevant statement as to the identity of the copy or copies with the tables mentioned in left column :
- other (specify):

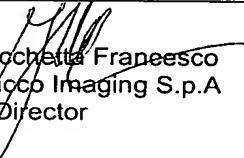
Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:

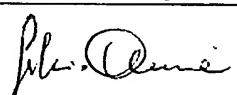
Language of filing of the international application:

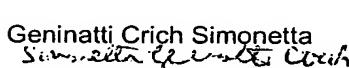
English

Box No. X SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE

Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).

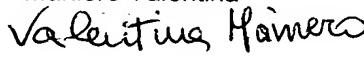

 Macchetta Franeesco
 Bracco Imaging S.p.A.
 IP Director

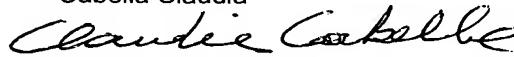

 Aime Silvio


 Geninatti Crich Simonetta
 Simona Geninatti Crich

Maniero Valentina

Cabella Claudia


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1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:

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3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:

4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):

5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /

6. Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid

2. Drawings:

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See Notes to the request form